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Docket No. F-6971

Ser. No. 09/852,111

**REMARKS**

Claims 15-19 remain in this application. Claims 15-19 are allowed. Claims 1-14 are rejected. Claims 1-14 are canceled without prejudice.

Applicants herein traverse and respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of the claims cited in the above-referenced Office Action.

Claims 1-10 and 12-14 are rejected as obvious over Kamakura et al.(US 5,755,877) in view of Koppel (US 5,619,548) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claim 11 is rejected as obvious over Kamakura et al.(US 5,755,877) in view of Koppel (US 5,619,548), and further in view of Ramani et al. (US 5,895,622) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Claims 1-14 are canceled without prejudice, rendering the above rejections moot.

Remaining claims 15-19 are allowed.